

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 01607 051704Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1916

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 1607

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TS, US, PDIP

SUBJECT: U.S. REPRESENTATION AT ANNIVERSARY TUNISIAN
INDEPENDENCE

REF: STATE 54192

DEPT FOR A

WHITE HOUSE FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE - CAPTAIN HOWE

PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR

CANBERRA/SYDNEY FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S ADVANCE TEAM --
CONZERI/MCGUIRE

1. TUNISIAN GOVE DELIGHTED AND HONORED THAT VICE PRESIDENT
ROCKEFELLER WILL SERVE AS PRINCIPAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
AT CEREMONIES IN TUNIS MARKING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF TUNISIAN
INDEPENDENCE AND WELCOMES PRESENCE ON THIS OCCASION OF
MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND MISS MURPHY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED PARA 5
REFTEL:

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 01607 051704Z

A. PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA IS ON TOUR OF SOUTHERN TUNISIA

AT PRESENT TIME. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL TO PRESIDENT STATES
PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA WILL BE IMMEDIATELY INFORMED OF VICE
PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S VISIT AND HE ANTICIPATES NO
PROBLEM IN ARRANGING PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH BOURGUIBA AND
PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA AT SOME CONVENIENT TIME MARCH 20.

B. AT THIS TIME ONLY THREE EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR
MARCH 20: (1) FOREIGN DELEGATIONS WILL ASSEMBLE AT
PRESIDENTIAL PALACE CARTHAGE AT 10:45 AM AND WILL BE RECEIVED
BY PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA AT 11.00 AM; (2) AT APPROXIMATELY
4:00PM THERE WILL BE "ARTISTIC AND SPORTS EVENTS" AT THE
PALAIS DES SPORTS ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA (GOT STILL
WORKING ON PLANS FOR THIS EVENT AND IT IS SUBJECT TO
MODIFICATION); (3) AT APPROXIMATELY 8:30PM PRIME MINISTER
NOUIRA WILL HOST DINNER FOR HEADS OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS
AT SITE YET TO BE DETERMINED.

C. NO FORMAL DRESS REQUIRED. GOT SUGGESTS DARK
SUIT (TENUE DE VILLE SOMBRE) FOR PALACE CEREMONY AND
SAME FOR PRIME MINISTER'S DINNER. IF PRIME MINISTER'S
DINNER INCLUDES WIVES -- AND THIS NOT YET KNOWN -- A
LONG DRESS, NOT TOO FORMAL, FOR MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND
MISS MURPHY WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. FOREIGN MINISTRY
AND PALACE PROMISE FURTHER INFORMATION ON MONDAY, MARCH 8,
AND AT THAT TIME THEY WILL HAVE SOME PROPOSALS TO MAKE
CONCERNING PROGRAM FOR MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND MISS MURPHY.

D. NOT ALL COUNTRIES HAVE YET RESPONDED TO ANNIVERSARY
INVITATION. GOT HAS PROMISED LIST OF DELEGATIONS, AS CURRENTLY
KNOWN, ON MONDAY, MARCH 8. WILL CABLE.

E. AGAIN ON MONDAY, GOT WILL PRESENT ALTERNATIVE
PROPOSALS FOR ACCOMMODATING VICE PRESIDENT AND PARTY.
AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, EVERY HOTEL ROOM IN TUNIS BOOKED
FOR ENTIRE WEEK OF CELEBRATIONS AND GOT HAS ASKED
FOR A LITTLE TIME TO CONSIDER WHAT ARE THE MOST
COMFORTABLE AND SUITABLE ACCOMMODATIONS THEY CAN MAKE
AVAILABLE FOR U.S. DELEGATION AND REST OF PARTY.

F. WOULD APPRECIATE DATE ARRIVAL ADVANCE TEAM,
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PAGE 03 TUNIS 01607 051704Z

NAMES, AND SPECIAL NEEDS BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.

G. CONTROL OFFICER - DCM BARRINGTON KING

H. ASSUME THAT UPON RECEIPT OF THIS MESSAGE
WE CAN DISPENSE WITH EXDIS CAPTION.

I. NO VISAS REQUIRED FOR TUNISIA. ANY NECESSARY

FORMALITIES CAN BE HANDLED BY EMBASSY AT AIRPORT.

J. GOT AGREES WITHHOLD OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT AND WOULD APPRECIATE BEING
INFORMED OF DATE AND HOUR OF RELEASE WASHINGTON AS
SOON AS IT IS KNOWN.

K. WE BELIEVE USG RESOURCES HERE GENERALLY
ADEQUATE HANDLE VISIT. WE ARE ASSUMING VICE PRESIDENT
WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY PROFESSIONAL FRENCH INTERPRETER
AND THAT HE WILL ALSO BE BRINGING LIMOUSINE FOR HIS
PERSONAL USE. ADVISE IF EITHER OF THESE ASSUMPTIONS
INCORRECT.

3. PLEASE ADVISE ANY SPECIAL DESIRES OF VICE
PRESIDENT, MRS. ROCKEFELLER OR MISS MURPHY DURING
THEIR STAY IN TUNIS.
SEELYE

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